Modernisation and rehabilitation of textile industry

*233. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan under their consideration to step up the pace of modernisation and rehabilitation of the textile industry without displacing any labour;

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) what is the role envisaged for the private sector in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) and (b) For modernisation of the Textile industry and for rehabilitation of sick but potentially viable textile units, several measures have been envisaged in the textile policy announced by Government in June, 1985. Some of the important ones are:

(i) Provision of adequate funds under the soft loan scheme of IDBI for modernisation of textile industry.

(ii) Setting of a Textile Modernisation Fund to enable the industry to generate internal resources for modernisation;

(iii) Identification of the needs of modernisation and type modernisation by the national level Standing Advisory Committee;

(iv) Encouragement to indigenous textile machinery manufacturing sector for producing good quality machinery;

(v) Monitoring the financial and technical performance of sick but potentially viable units and provision of a rehabilitation package for them;

(vi) Setting up of a rehabilitation fund to provide relief to displaced workers of textile units having no expectation of becoming economically viable.

(c) The measures envisaged in the textile policy cover private sector also.

Scheme to attract foreign tourists during the lean months

*234. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Minister announced during the month of January, 1986 schemes to attract foreign tourists especially during the lean months;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the proposed schemes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been a decline in the flow of foreign tourist traffic during the last three years;

(d) if so, what are the main reasons therefor; and

(e) whether any scheme has been chalked out to improve foreign tourist traffic during the Seventh plan period; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With a view to substantially augmenting arrivals of foreign tourists from Europe during the summer months, a scheme is under implementation of the Department of Tourism in conjunction with the Indian and Foreign airlines operating between Europe and India and Indian hotel industry. The scheme is aimed at promoting a cheaper package with appropriate discount by both the airlines and by the hotel industry in order to popularise India as a summer time tourist destination.